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VEGETABLE SITUATION

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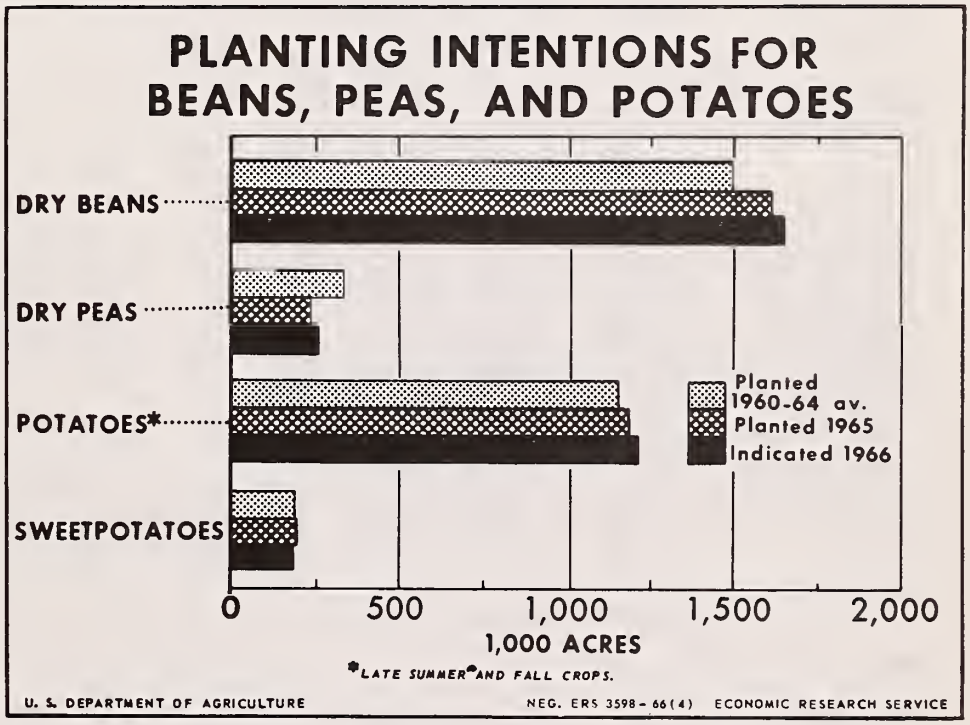
Partly in response to recent relatively high prices, farmers plan to plant more acres to dry beans, peas, and potatoes this year than in 1965. Early March intentions reports showed that propsective dry bean acreage is up 2 percent from last year and a tenth above average. With average yields, output would be a third above the short 1965 crop and record large.

Intended acreage of late summer-fall potatoes is up slightly, and that of dry peas is up moderately. But under normal conditions, output of both would be about the same as in 1965 when yields were unusually high.

Prices for 1965-crop sweetpotatoes have been relatively low. Intended acreage this year is down a little from last year, and with average yields, production would be down moderately.



IN THIS ISSUE

Early Supply Prospects for Processed Vegetables, 1966-67

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Table 1.--Vegetables and melons for fresh market: Reported commercial acreage and production of principal crops, selected seasons, average 1960-64, 1965 and indicated 1966 1/

Seasonal group and crop	Acreage					Production				
			1966					1966		
	Average 1960-64	1965	Indicated	Percentage of average	Percentage of 1965	Average 1960-64	1965	Indicated	Percentage of average	Percentage of 1965
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Pct.	Pct.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	Pct.	Pct.
Winter 2/	244,350	253,250	241,600	99	95	35,604	37,201	34,224	96	92
Spring:										
Asparagus 2/										
early and mid	84,440	71,400	69,000	82	97	2,426	2,173	2,047	84	94
late	63,770	62,740	60,650	95	97	1,269	1,232	n.a.	--	--
Beans, lima	3,220	2,800	2,700	84	96	77	67	n.a.	--	--
Beans, snap										
early and mid 3/	27,240	24,300	25,700	94	106	499	451	485	97	108
Beets	470	390	390	83	100	44	36	37	84	103
Broccoli 2/4/	12,920	11,900	13,100	101	110	984	952	1,114	113	117
Cabbage 2/										
early	12,280	12,050	11,550	94	96	1,685	1,698	1,619	96	95
late	7,260	7,400	8,000	110	108	983	947	n.a.	--	--
Cantaloups	32,440	35,300	35,700	110	101	3,700	3,707	n.a.	--	--
Carrots 2/	2,400	2,300	3,000	125	130	402	426	600	149	141
Cauliflower 2/4/	7,960	7,400	8,800	111	119	733	666	704	96	106
Celery 2/	7,220	7,400	8,100	112	109	3,364	3,487	3,930	117	113
Corn, sweet 4/	39,900	44,300	46,600	117	105	2,912	3,116	3,619	124	116
Cucumbers 4/	11,000	11,600	11,000	100	95	1,038	1,094	1,063	102	97
Eggplant	1,100	1,000	900	82	90	141	150	135	96	90
Lettuce 4/	39,780	35,100	43,800	110	125	7,280	7,024	8,282	114	118
Onions 2/										
early	22,800	23,100	20,400	89	88	2,942	3,003	2,142	73	71
late	7,870	6,250	6,780	86	108	1,906	2,026	n.a.	--	--
Peas, green 4/	2,720	2,100	1,500	55	71	122	84	75	61	89
Peppers, green 2/	7,640	7,400	8,100	106	109	718	678	729	102	108
Shallots	520	400	400	77	100	14	12	12	86	100
Spinach	5,490	5,160	5,290	96	103	338	322	353	104	110
Tomatoes 4/	27,820	23,800	25,200	91	106	3,523	3,402	4,136	117	122
Watermelons										
late	73,980	78,200	72,800	98	93	9,793	10,139	n.a.	--	--
Summer: 5/										
Cabbage 2/										
early	7,570	7,930	7,980	105	101	1,486	1,478	n.a.	--	--
late	17,670	17,000	17,150	97	101	3,563	3,484	n.a.	--	--
Garlic 2/	4,040	4,600	3,500	87	76	389	552	n.a.	--	--
Onions 2/										
early	9,440	9,750	10,240	108	105	2,209	2,268	n.a.	--	--
late	56,280	58,600	56,770	101	97	18,435	20,772	n.a.	--	--
Watermelons										
early	207,260	207,500	203,500	98	98	15,745	16,153	n.a.	--	--
late	33,150	32,000	30,100	91	94	4,014	4,077	n.a.	--	--

1/ Excludes Alaska and Hawaii, which are not divided into seasonal groups.
2/ Includes processing.
3/ Production for early spring only.
4/ Acreage and production for early spring only.
5/ 1966 prospective acreage.
n.a.--not available.
Vegetables-Fresh Market, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

THE VEGETABLE SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, April 25, 1966

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SUMMARY

Fresh vegetable marketings are increasing seasonally and current prospects indicate supplies will be relatively large in May and June. Because of increased acreage and better yields, spring vegetable production is expected to total substantially larger than last year and moderately above the 1960-64 average. Among principal items, sharply increased output is likely for early-spring lettuce and tomatoes, and supplies of celery, sweet corn, peppers, broccoli, and spinach will be up substantially. Onions and carrots are the only major vegetables expected to be in relatively light supply. With larger supplies of most commodities, overall prices to growers probably will average sharply below the high prices of a year earlier.

Remaining supplies of many of the leading processed vegetables are smaller than a year earlier, and prices are relatively high. Frozen peas are the major exception; supplies are heavy and markets weak. The carryover of processed vegetables will be smaller than a year earlier. But early prospects point to increased supplies in the 1966-67 marketing season. Intentions reports indicate substantially more acreage of vegetables for processing than last year. With average yields, production and resulting canned and frozen supplies next season would be moderately larger than those available this season.

Total supplies of potatoes are considerably larger this spring than last, due to much heavier storage stocks in the West, and prospective larger spring crops in all areas. Prices are expected to average sharply below the exceptionally high levels of last spring.

Potato growers reported intentions to plant slightly more acreage for summer and fall harvest than last year. The intended acreage, with average

yields, would result in a market supply at least moderately above prospective consumption rates, with consequent lower prices to growers.

In early March, farmers reported intentions to plant 2 percent fewer acres to sweetpotatoes this year than last. Average yields on the prospective acreage would result in a production moderately smaller than in 1965. Prices to growers for 1966-crop sweetpotatoes probably would average at least moderately above the low prices that have prevailed for the 1965 crop.

Supplies of dry edible beans continue to be materially smaller than a year earlier, and prices are averaging the highest in many years. Intentions reports indicate growers plan 2 percent more acreage than last year. However, recent average yields on the intended acreage would result in a record-large production. Supplies of all classes of dry beans in the 1966-67 marketing season would be sharply above those available this season.

Dry pea supplies are smaller than a year earlier, and prices are well above the distress prices of last season. Farmers plan a moderate increase in acreage this year, but with average yields, production would be about the same as in 1965. Since carryover likely will be down, total supplies next season would be smaller than in the current season.

COMMERCIAL VEGETABLES FOR FRESH MARKET

Winter Supply Light; Prices High

Primarily because of bad weather, total fresh vegetable supplies this winter were materially smaller than a year earlier, with production of most items down. Prices jumped sharply after a freeze in Florida, reaching near-record highs in early February. Although markets for many commodities weakened during March, prices for winter fresh vegetables averaged the highest in many years.

Spring Supplies Substantially Larger Than a Year Ago

Supplies of fresh vegetables this spring are expected to total substantially larger than a year ago when weather curtailed output, and moderately above the 1960-64 average. Total production of 19 vegetable crops, which normally furnish about three-fourths of spring tonnage, is up 8 percent from last spring. Acreage of many major commodities is larger than in 1965, and better yields are in prospect. Production of early-spring tomatoes and lettuce is up sharply from last year, and substantial tonnage increases are indicated for celery, sweet corn, green peppers, and spinach. Spring output of broccoli and cauliflower is much larger than a year earlier due to more acres and better yields in California. However, because of less acreage and poor yields in south Texas, onion supplies will be down sharply from those of last spring. Total supplies of carrots and cabbage also are expected to be smaller this spring than last. Spring cantaloup acreage is about the same as in 1965 but plantings of watermelons are down.

Although total spring tonnage is expected to be large, marketings were below normal into late April because of bad weather. The 1966 season has been particularly unfavorable in south Texas, with excessive moisture resulting in sharply curtailed vegetable production. In Florida, California, and other important producing areas, cold weather earlier this year delayed the progress of many crops for spring harvest. Despite the numerous problems, however, harvests are now increasing and seasonally heavy volume is expected in coming weeks. Because of increased supplies of many leading items, overall prices to growers are likely to average considerably below the high levels of last spring.

Growers have indicated plans to plant moderately more acres to early-summer onions, and slightly more to summer cabbage. But intended acreage of late-summer onions and summer watermelons is smaller.

Prospects for Leading Fresh Vegetables

Carrots--Prices for carrots so far this year have been sharply above the low levels of a year earlier because of a short winter crop in south Texas. Excessive rains restricted planting and sharply curtailed yields in that State, and tonnage is down more than 40 percent from 1965. The strong market has stimulated carrot harvest in the desert areas of southern California; winter-crop output there is expected to be up slightly from last year due to higher yields.

With remaining winter-crop supplies much below normal, markets are expected to continue strong at least through May, despite prospects for a relatively large spring crop. Growers in Arizona boosted acreage sharply this year; high yields appear likely; and production is expected to be 41 percent larger than in 1965. Peak shipments are expected about mid-June, with movement continuing through July.

Seasonally increasing supplies also will be available in late June from carrot crops in central coast areas of California; production estimates will be available May 9.

Cabbage--Total supplies of cabbage are expected to be relatively small this spring. Remaining supplies of winter-crop cabbage probably are a little smaller than a year ago, and early-spring tonnage is expected to be down about 5 percent. Both acreage and yields of early-spring crops in the Southeast have been lowered by adverse weather; prospective output in the region, which typically accounts for three-fifths of the seasonal production, is 3 percent smaller than a year ago and materially below the recent 5-year average. Tonnage in California, which moves mostly to West Coast markets, is down moderately. However, acreage of cabbage for late-spring harvest is materially larger than a year ago; prices for cabbage last spring were high. Despite smaller total supplies, prices this spring probably will average below a year earlier. In 1965, bad weather resulted in an acute supply gap in mid-season and boosted prices sharply.

Florida and Texas winter crops furnished the bulk of April marketings. With sharply curtailed movement out of Texas more than offsetting increased supplies from Florida, total volume was smaller than in 1965. And with harvest of the early-spring crops late because of weather, prices continued relatively high into late April. However, both early- and late-spring crop areas are expected to be harvesting in volume during May. Because of harvest overlaps, supplies likely will be larger, and prices lower than a year earlier.

Sweet corn--F.o.b. prices for fresh sweet corn reached an all-time high in late February this year as a mid-winter freeze curtailed output in Florida. Although the freeze also caused heavy damage to early acreage for spring harvest, replanting was extensive and a big spring supply appears likely. Florida's early-spring crop, which usually furnishes most of the U.S. supply from April into mid-June, is up 19 percent from last year, and record large. Both acreage and prospective yields are well above those of a year ago. The small spring crop in Texas is 8 percent smaller than last year due to less acreage.

Because of adverse weather, spring-crop marketings remained below year-earlier levels into late April. However, harvests in both Florida and Texas are increasing seasonally; peak volume is expected, as usual, in May. Since relatively large supplies are in prospect during the next 5 to 6 weeks, prices are expected to average below the moderate prices of a year earlier.

Celery--Total supplies of celery this spring are substantially larger than both a year ago and average. Indicated production in California is 28 percent above that in 1965 due to a sharp jump in acreage and higher yields. Florida producers expect slightly more tonnage this spring than last because of better yields; acreage is unchanged.

Celery harvests in both Florida and California were hampered by cold weather through mid-winter. However, subsequent growing conditions have been more favorable. Marketings in early spring are running considerably above year-earlier levels and prices were low. Prices f.o.b. Florida shipping points averaged $2.12 per crate during the week ended April 23 compared with $2.40 a year earlier, and prices for California celery were down about a third. With large supplies available for marketing through the spring, markets are expected to continue under pressure.

Onions--Because of a large 1965 late-summer onion crop and consequent heavy storage stocks, markets for onions were weak during most of the winter. Marketing problems were particularly acute in the East and Midwest, with prices averaging far below those of a year earlier. In mid-March, the USDA announced a Section 32 purchase program to help growers market their abundant supplies. Only small quantities were purchased, however, as prices rose appreciably in late March. The prospect of a short spring crop was mainly responsible for the market improvement.

The early-spring onion crop in south Texas suffered from excessive rainfall last fall and early winter. Both acreage and prospective yields are considerably below those of last year, and output is 29 percent smaller than in 1965. Expected production in the Winter Garden area is up from a year ago, but

much smaller crops are likely in all other areas. The bad weather also resulted in delayed harvests; marketings during April were sharply below a year earlier, and prices averaged sharply higher. Because of the drastic reduction in early-spring tonnage, onion markets probably will remain strong for several months despite increased acreages of later seasonal crops.

Total acreage of onions for late-spring harvest is up 8 percent over last year due to large increases in both California and Arizona, where 90 percent of the crop is grown. Producers in North Carolina have the same acreage as in 1965, while those in Georgia and Texas have less. With average yields, production of late-spring onions this year would be moderately larger than in 1965. Harvest is underway; peak supplies are expected in June.

Additional light supplies will be available in June from early-summer crop States where growers have indicated seasonal acreage may be up 5 percent. Recent average yields on the prospective acreage would result in a substantial increase in tonnage. Intended acreage for late-summer harvest is down 3 percent from 1965 due to moderate reductions in the East and Midwest. Producers in the West plan about the same acreage as last year.

Lettuce--Supplies of lettuce this winter were substantially below a year earlier as growers cut acreage in response to distress prices in 1965, and wet cold weather curtailed plantings and yields. Because of reduced supplies and frequent harvest delays due to low temperatures, markets were exceptionally strong most of the winter; prices in January-February averaged the highest ever for those months.

Supplies of spring lettuce are materially larger than last year and average. Early-spring output is expected to total 8.3 million hundredweight, up 18 percent from 1965 due to more acreage in all States. Prospective tonnage is up nearly a tenth in Arizona, and up more than a fifth in California. Although New Mexico and North Carolina account for only a small portion of the total spring supply, both expect to harvest much more spring lettuce this year than in 1965.

Early harvest in Arizona was restricted by hot weather. By late April, however, supplies were large relative to trade needs, and prices f.o.b. central Arizona shipping points were sharply below the high prices of a year earlier. Continued market pressure is likely as the large California and New Mexico crops move in peak volume during May.

Tomatoes--Production of winter-crop tomatoes in Florida this year totaled a little less than in 1965. Supplies were heavy through February but declined in March, reflecting the effects of a mid-winter freeze. Although fresh tomato marketings continued light during the first weeks of spring, large supplies are in prospect. Partly in response to exceptionally high prices last spring, Florida growers sharply increased acreage for 1966 spring harvest. Good yields appear likely and output is expected to be 39 percent above that in 1965, and nearly 60 percent above the recent 5-year average. Although indicated early-spring crops in both Texas and California are relatively small because of fewer acres, total early-spring tonnage is up 22 percent from a year ago.

The impact of increased supply on price probably will be accentuated by distorted harvest patterns. Considerable spring-crop acreage in Florida was frozen and subsequently replanted; a larger-than-usual portion of the State's crop will be available for May harvest. By late April, prices for 6x6 size, greens, f.o.b. Florida shipping points, were running about $6.00 per 40 lb. carton compared with $7.85 a year earlier. With relatively large supplies in prospect the next 4 to 6 weeks, prices in all areas likely will average well below those of a year earlier.

Watermelons--Acreage of spring watermelons is down moderately from the high level of last year, with reductions in both California and Florida. California acreage is off 8 percent, and with average yields, production would be materially smaller than both last year and average. In Florida, which usually accounts for 90 percent of total spring tonnage, growers have moderately fewer acres; output would be down only slightly, however, assuming average yields. Early growth of spring melons in all Florida areas was retarded by unfavorable weather. This may result in more than usual harvest overlap as marketings become seasonally heavy the next 4 to 6 weeks.

Early reports indicate summer watermelon supplies may be smaller than last year. Intended plantings for both early- and late-summer harvest are down from 1965. With average yields, production would be down at least moderately. A major portion of the decline would be in the East since acreage and potential summer output in Texas and the Midwest are up from a year earlier.

PROCESSED VEGETABLES

Partly because of small supplies of many fresh commodities, consumer demand for processed vegetables continued strong through the winter of 1966. Apparent disappearance of frozen vegetables was up materially from a year earlier, with especially heavy movement of snap beans, corn, and peas. Total disappearance of canned vegetables probably was about the same as a year earlier, with increased shipments of snap beans, beets, carrots, and kraut offset by a reduced movement of most other items.

Total supplies of canned vegetables available until the new packing season becomes active this summer appear to be moderately smaller than those of last spring. Among the principal items, stocks of sweet corn, lima beans, pumpkin and squash, beets, and carrots are down sharply from last year and below the recent 5-year average. Supplies of all tomato items also are smaller than in 1965, with those of paste and sauce probably off sharply. With the new packing season for spinach well underway, canned supplies probably are at least as large as a year ago. And stocks of peas, kraut, and snap beans are larger.

Total frozen vegetable supplies (excluding potatoes) on April 1 amounted to 748 million pounds compared with 715 million a year earlier. Despite exceptionally large use, remaining stocks of frozen peas were sharply above year-earlier levels, and those of sweet corn, baby limas, cauliflower, and carrots were up substantially. However, supplies of asparagus were slightly smaller

than in 1965 and stocks of snap beans and Fordhook limas were down substantially. April 1 stocks of broccoli and spinach were sharply below a year ago, but much of the decline reflected a slow start of the 1966 spring pack.

Market Activity Slow But Prices Relatively High

Because of smaller supplies and heavy early-season buying, prices for processed vegetables have been relatively high so far this season. Although trade reports indicate only limited buying interest in recent months, remaining canners' supplies are the smallest in several years, and prices generally have been steady. In early April, f.o.b. prices for canned sweet corn, lima beans, beets, carrots, and a few of the tomato concentrates were sharply above those of a year ago. Prices for peeled tomatoes, catsup, and juice were up about a tenth. Snap beans and kraut were the only canned items priced lower than last April; but prices for both were above average. Although prices for most frozen vegetables also were above year-earlier levels, the market for green peas continued weak, and there were indications of pressure on prices for sweet corn.

With aggregate processed supplies smaller and prices higher than a year ago, and increased supplies of fresh spring vegetables likely, the use of canned and frozen vegetables is expected to be smaller this spring than last. Even so, carryovers probably will be much smaller than in 1965.

In most years, prices for processed vegetables change little in the last months of a marketing season. Markets may be less stable than usual this year, however, since big new packs appear likely.

Processing Acreage Up This Year Over Last

Processors are planning large acreage increases for most vegetables this year. March and April intentions reports for 9 vegetables, which account for about 90 percent of the annual processing tonnage, indicated a total acreage of these crops to be 9 percent larger than in 1965 (table 2). Canners planned a slight increase in snap bean acreage, and moderately more acres in green peas. A moderate increase also was indicated in contract acreage of cabbage for kraut. Intended plantings of sweet corn, tomatoes, and beets were up substantially from last year, and those of green limas and cucumbers for pickles were up sharply. Freezers reported intentions to cut green pea acreage slightly, but material increases over 1965 were in prospect for all other freezing commodities. The winter spinach crop for freezing was expected to total a tenth above a year earlier; canning tonnage was up moderately.

If the intended acreages are planted and average yields are obtained, total production of vegetables for processing this year would be substantially larger than last year, and close to the record output in 1962. The prospective canned pack would be nearly a tenth larger than last year, and despite expected smaller carryovers, total canned supplies in the 1966-67 marketing season would be moderately larger than those available this season and the largest of record. Supplies of every major item would be ample, and those of snap beans, peas, pickles, and several tomato items probably would be heavy.

Table 2.--Vegetables for commercial processing: Prospective plantings

Crop	Planted acreage			1966 as percentage of	
	Average 1960-64	1965	Prospective 1966	Average 1960-64	1965
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Percent	Percent
Beans, green lima					
Freezing	60,330	61,120	68,520	114	112
Canning	29,700	28,170	33,590	113	119
Beans, snap					
Freezing	49,430	51,200	58,880	119	115
Canning	150,800	194,360	200,370	133	103
Beets for canning	17,680	15,710	16,920	96	108
Cabbage for kraut, contract only	8,310	8,990	9,530	115	106
Corn, sweet					
Freezing	84,760	107,600	121,550	143	113
Canning	343,520	323,350	355,700	104	110
Cucumbers for pickles	112,810	116,280	142,470	126	123
Peas, green					
Freezing	155,220	168,440	166,870	108	99
Canning	263,930	294,400	309,410	117	105
Spinach, winter	9,680				
Freezing	--	5,050	5,570	--	110
Canning	--	4,550	4,730	--	104
Tomatoes	288,210	254,720	286,370	99	112
Total 9 crops 1/	1,574,390	1,633,940	1,780,480	113	109

1/ Does not include open market cabbage for kraut nor spring and fall spinach. Vegetables - Processing, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

The frozen pack probably would be moderately larger than in 1965, with fewer peas frozen but increases in all other items. Since total carryover is expected to be the same or larger than a year earlier, total frozen supplies next season would be moderately above this season's supply. Stocks of snap beans and sweet corn would be record large; supplies of peas would be only a little below the excessive volume available this season.

Prospects for Major Commodities

Lima beans--This season, like last, markets for canned green limas have been strong, reflecting tight supplies. Although the pack was up sharply from that in 1964, carryover was extremely small. Canners' carryover into the 1966

packing season also will be nominal; remaining stocks already are below the low level of a year earlier. Prospective acreage for canning is 19 percent larger than last year. If yields are average, output on the intended acreage would be about a fourth larger than in 1965, and total supplies in 1966-67 would be much above current season's levels. However, the projected supply still would be smaller than the burdensome supplies of the early 1960's.

Supplies of frozen lima beans for the 1965-66 marketing season were close to those of last season, as a relatively small carryover about offset a larger pack. Through the winter, disappearance totaled about the same as a year earlier but prices averaged moderately higher for Fordhooks, and slightly higher for baby limas. Freezers have reported plans to utilize the output from 12 percent more acreage than last year. Although part of the increase in pack would be offset by a light carryover, total supplies in 1966-67 would be substantially larger than this season. Supplies of baby limas may be above the recent 5-year average; Fordhook supplies likely would be smaller than average.

Snap beans--Due to a record pack, supplies of canned snap beans this season were 13 percent above those available in 1964-65, and the largest ever. All of the increase over last season occurred in the East and Midwest, and markets in those areas have been under pressure, with prices in early April at least moderately lower than a year earlier. Supplies in the Northwest were the same as the moderate volume of last season, and prices there are averaging a little higher than those of last season.

Packs of frozen beans last fall and winter apparently were curtailed by weather. And with fresh supplies short, disappearance has been running above that of last season. Cold storage holdings April 1 totaled 75 million pounds compared with a heavy 82 million in April 1965. With supplies smaller and demand stronger, f.o.b. prices are slightly above the depressed levels of a year earlier.

April intentions reports indicate a 3 percent larger total acreage for canning than last year, with slightly more acres in both the Midwest and East, and 11 percent more in the West. The relatively large increase in the West partly reflects the continuing shift from pole beans to bush varieties--lower yielding but suitable for mechanical harvesting. Assuming average yields, U.S. output would be only slightly larger than in 1965. Since prospective carryover is relatively large, however, total supplies next season would be up nearly a tenth from this season. Freezers plan an acreage 15 percent larger than in 1965, with large increases in all areas. If intentions materialize, frozen supplies in 1966-67 would be 5 to 6 percent above those available in 1965-66. The prospective supplies of both canned and frozen beans are far above potential market outlets.

Sweet corn--Total supplies of canned corn this season were substantially smaller than last season as a short carryover more than offset a 4 percent increase in pack. Despite tight supplies and high prices, movement has been heavy. Remaining stocks are sharply below a year ago, and the smallest in more than a decade.

Early April reports indicate canners are planning to boost packs considerably this year. Intended plantings are up a tenth from 1965 with increases of 14 percent in the West and 11 percent in the Midwest more than offsetting a slight reduction in the East. With average yields, production would be nearly a fifth larger than in 1965. Total canned supplies in the 1966-67 marketing season would be materially larger than this season, but close to the recent 5-year average, and about in line with trade needs.

Because of a big pack, frozen sweet corn supplies for 1965-66 were record large. Although market demand was strong through winter, with both prices and disappearance a little higher than a year earlier, recent trade reports indicate occasional price concessions. Prospective acreage for freezing is 13 percent above last year, with increases planned in all major regions. If the intentions are carried out and yields are average, 1966 tonnage would be much larger than in 1965. Total supplies in 1966-67 would be nearly a fifth above those of this season, and record large.

Tomatoes--Because of smaller carryovers and packs, the aggregate supply of processed tomato items was substantially smaller this season than last. Supplies of tomato paste and sauce, most of which are packed in California, probably were off about a fourth; prices for both are sharply above a year earlier and the highest in several decades. Supplies of peeled tomatoes, juice, and catsup were down only 4 to 6 percent from those of the previous season. But prices for these items in early April were averaging 10 to 15 percent above year-earlier levels.

Much of the exceptional strength in the processed tomato market this season probably stemmed from general industry concern about supplies for 1965-66 because of the uncertain harvest labor situation in California. Markets were particularly active during the first half of the season, with shipments heavy and prices rising. However, trade reports indicate buying interest has been slack in recent months; supplies appear adequate for current needs and a big new pack is likely.

General satisfaction with machine harvesting last year, and the increased supply of machines for this year's harvest--together with the stimulus of recent high prices--has led to prospects for a substantial production increase. March 1 intentions reports indicated a 20 percent larger processing tomato acreage in California than in 1965. Prospective acreage in most of the important Eastern and Midwestern tomato processing States also is up considerably. With average yields and abandonment, production on the intended acreage would be about 13 percent larger than in 1965. Larger packs would more than offset expected smaller carryovers; aggregate supplies in 1966-67 would be up at least moderately from those available this season, with supplies of paste and sauce, packed mostly in California, probably up sharply. Prices of all items likely would average considerably below the high levels of 1965-66.

Green peas--Frozen peas have been the only major processed vegetable in particularly burdensome supply this season. The 1965 pack was record large, and despite a high rate of disappearance, supplies remain heavy. Cold storage stocks April 1 amounted to 149 million pounds compared with 123 million a year

earlier. Markets are under heavy pressure with prices the lowest since 1958. Little relief is in prospect next season. Early-March intentions reports indicated total acreage for freezing may be reduced slightly this year, and with average yields, output would be down about a tenth. Because of a prospective large carryover, however, total supplies in the 1966-67 marketing season would be only moderately smaller than this season, and still heavy relative to prospective market outlets.

Because of a relatively large pack, supplies of canned peas this season were nearly a tenth above the short supply last season, and the largest since the late 1950's. Although supplies are up, movement is heavy, and prices are averaging only slightly below the high prices of last season. Canners have reported plans for moderately more total acreage this year with 9 percent more in the West, and 4 percent more in both the Midwest and East. Assuming average yields, however, production may be no larger than in 1965 when yields were better than usual. With little change in pack but an expected larger carryover, total supplies next season would be up moderately from this season, and probably large relative to trade needs.

Spinach--Canned and frozen spinach carryovers at the start of the current packing season were light. Canners' stocks on March 1, 1966, amounted to 2.2 million cases (basis 24/303's) versus a heavy 3.3 million a year earlier. Frozen holdings totaled 30 million pounds, down a fifth from stocks on hand March 1, 1965.

Mainly due to better weather, the winter crop for processing is expected to total 31 percent larger than the short crop in 1965. Florida's plantings were smaller this year but fewer acres were lost, yields were much higher, and production was up 69 percent. Output in California, which accounts for 50 percent or more of the U.S. canned and frozen packs, is estimated a fourth larger than in 1965, with both acreage and yields up considerably. Because of bigger packs, supplies of canned and frozen spinach into mid-1966 probably will be at least slightly larger than a year earlier.

Sauerkraut--As a result of a sharp increase in pack, kraut supplies this season were nearly a fifth larger than the tight supply of last season, and moderately above the recent 5-year average. With more plentiful stocks, movement has been relatively large this season. And although still well above a year earlier, remaining supplies appear to be about in line with trade needs. Prices in early spring were down considerably from the high prices of last season, but a little above average.

According to April intentions reports, kraut packers plan to contract 6 percent more acres this year than last. However, with average yields, contract tonnage would be slightly smaller than in 1965. Information is not available regarding potential open-market purchases, which depend mostly on early-fall crop production and prevailing prices. Open-market purchases were relatively large in 1965.

Beets--Both beginning stocks and pack of canned beets were smaller this season compared with last, and total supply was down 13 percent. Although supplies were lighter and prices higher, shipments so far this season have been heavier than a year earlier. So stocks remaining in canners' warehouses on March 1, at 4.6 million cases (24/303 equivalents), were a third below the heavy stocks available in March 1965. April intentions reports pointed to 8 percent more acres this year in beets for canning, with increases planned in all States. Assuming normal abandonment and average yields, output and resulting pack would be substantially larger than a year earlier. Despite a likely small carryover, total supplies next season would be about 5 percent above those available this season, and probably a little above potential needs.

Cucumbers for pickles--Processors have reported intentions to plant 23 percent more acres to cucumbers for pickles this year than last. In the Southern Region, which usually accounts for about a third of U.S. tonnage, prospective acreage is up 32 percent with especially large increases in North Carolina and Texas. Acreage in the Northern Region may be up a tenth. Intended plantings in Michigan, usually the leading U.S. producer, are substantially above a year ago but well below average. Western acreage is indicated 19 percent larger than in 1965. With average yields, U.S. output would be nearly a fourth above the big crop in 1965, and record large. Although consumption of pickles has increased steadily over the past decade, the projected supply would be much above potential outlets.

POTATOES

Supplies of potatoes were heavy in the winter of 1966. Because of increased fall-crop production, storage stocks on January 1, at 123.3 million hundredweight, were up sharply from the low level of a year earlier, and near-record large. The winter crop, at 5 million hundredweight, also was up sharply from last year primarily due to an increase in California. Winter production in Florida was about the same as in 1965. With total supplies much larger this winter than last, prices averaged lower. U.S. average prices to growers during January-March 1966 were less than half the record highs of the previous winter. Still, markets were relatively strong in view of the exceptionally heavy supplies.

Inventory replenishment, above normal shrinkage, and moderate supplies in the East probably were the main reasons for the overall market strength. Supplies of frozen and dehydrated products, which now account for about a fifth of annual potato consumption, were drawn down to low levels during the general potato shortage in the first half of 1965. Movement of potatoes to freezers and dehydrators through the fall and winter was considerably above year-earlier levels, sustaining the market in the West where supplies were especially large, and stimulating the market in the East where supplies were below average. Eastern markets were further bolstered as chippers bid actively for reduced supplies of potatoes suitable for chipping. Poor keeping quality, due to bad weather at harvest, was a serious problem in many eastern and midwestern areas. This resulted in heavy cullage during the storage season; supplies suitable for food and seed use apparently were not as large as suggested by the levels of total

stocks. With total disappearance holding at record rates all season, general grower confidence in the price structure remained firm into early spring.

Spring Prospects

Disappearance of storage potatoes has continued rapid so far this spring. Nevertheless, total remaining stocks probably are larger than a year earlier, ranging from much larger in the West to much smaller in the East. Supplies of new-crop potatoes this spring are expected to be up moderately from a year ago. Output of early-spring potatoes, at 5.2 million hundredweight, is 6 percent larger than in 1965 due to increased production in Texas. The Florida spring crop, a large portion of which goes to chippers, is about the same as last year. Production estimates are not yet available for the important late-spring crop, but total acreage is up 3 percent from last year and the largest since 1961. Acreage in California, which typically accounts for two-thirds of late-spring tonnage, is 4 percent less than a year earlier. But Arizona acreage is materially larger. With average yields, production in the West would be moderately larger than last year, and substantially above average. In the leading eastern areas, acreage is 3 percent larger in Baldwin County, Ala., and 8 percent larger in northeastern North Carolina. Eastern late-spring tonnage, assuming average yields, also will be above that in 1965 but about the same as the 5-year average.

With total supplies up sharply, potato prices this spring are expected to average considerably below the near-record highs of a year earlier. As usual, however, markets in the various areas of the country will be influenced by somewhat different economic forces. In addition to the impact of larger supplies, prices in the West probably will be affected by reduced sales of new potatoes to processors. Last spring a substantial quantity of California potatoes moved to freezers in the Northwest. In the East, market pressures may be eased somewhat by the relatively light storage supply and a strong demand for chip stock.

Summer-fall Supply Prospects

Early February reports indicate potato growers intended to plant slightly more total acreage for early-summer harvest this year than last. Farmers on the Eastern Shore of Virginia planned an increase of 2 percent, and Texas producers indicated prospects for 15 percent more acres than in 1965. But prospective early-summer acreage was down 12 percent in California, and 5 percent in Delaware. Intended plantings in all other early-summer States were the same or a little smaller than a year earlier. Average yields on the intended plantings would result in a production of early-summer potatoes about the same as the relatively small crop in 1965, with reduced output in California offsetting a larger tonnage in Texas. Eastern supplies would be close to 1965 levels.

March intentions reports indicated growers planned to plant 1.2 million acres of potatoes for late-summer and fall harvest, 3 percent more than in 1965. Intended acreage was up 1 percent in the East and Midwest, and up 5 percent in the West.

Table 3.--Potatoes, late summer and fall: Prospective plantings

Crop and area	Acreage planted			1966 as percentage of 1965
	1960-64 average	1965	Prospective 1966 1/	
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent
Late summer and fall				
Maine	146.4	151.0	153.0	101
New York-Long Island	41.0	37.0	36.0	97
-Upstate	43.0	40.0	40.0	100
Pennsylvania	39.6	38.0	39.0	103
Other States 2/	56.7	52.9	52.7	100
Eastern	326.7	318.9	320.7	101
Michigan	47.3	52.9	53.0	100
Wisconsin	54.8	61.0	61.0	100
Minnesota	114.6	108.4	108.6	100
North Dakota	118.2	108.0	113.0	105
Other States 3/	48.2	42.9	41.6	97
Central	383.1	373.2	377.2	101
Idaho	254.8	283.0	295.0	104
Colorado	55.1	48.5	50.0	103
Washington	37.9	50.0	58.0	116
Oregon	36.4	40.5	43.3	107
California	31.5	35.6	34.5	97
Other States 4/	25.3	24.6	25.5	104
Western	441.0	482.2	506.3	105
Total late summer and fall	1,150.7	1,174.3	1,204.2	102.5

1/ Intended acreage as of March 1.
2/ New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and North Carolina.
3/ Ohio, Indiana, Iowa, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Illinois.
4/ Montana, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, and New Mexico.

Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Although larger plantings are in prospect in most Western States, the bulk of the region's increase would be in Washington and Idaho where processing capacity has expanded considerably. Washington reported a planned increase of 16 percent; plantings in Idaho may be up 4 percent. Among other leading States, moderate increases are expected in Colorado and Oregon, but California's intended acreage was down 3 percent.

The prospective slight increase in total Midwestern acreage reflects a planned moderate expansion in the Red River Valley of North Dakota, where 1965 acreage was affected by bad weather at planting time. Intended acreages are the same as last year in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, and Illinois, while reduced plantings are in prospect in all other Central States.

Growers in Maine planned a slight increase in plantings this year, and producers in both Pennsylvania and New Jersey indicated their acreage may be up moderately. All other leading eastern areas reported intentions to plant the same or moderately fewer acres.

Burdensome Production Likely

If the intended late-summer and fall acreages are planted and average yields are obtained, production would be a fraction smaller than the record tonnage in 1965. However, prices probably would average lower than a year earlier--assuming normal quality and distribution of supply by areas.

SWEETPOTATOES

Supplies Heavier Than Last Season, Prices Lower

Because of a tenth more acreage and much better yields, sweetpotato production in 1965 was substantially larger than in 1964. Despite increased supplies, shipment and unload data indicate marketings during the first half of the 1965-66 season were close to those of a year earlier. Thus, the quantity remaining for marketing during the winter and spring was up sharply. Although movement through commercial channels in recent months was greater than a year earlier, supplies were burdensome relative to trade needs, with consequent pressure on prices. The U.S. average price to growers during March 1966 was $4.79 per hundredweight compared with $6.57 in March 1965.

Government Program Initiated

On March 18, at industry request, the USDA announced a Section 32 purchase program designed to help sweetpotato producers market their large supply. Through April 26, 46,922 hundredweight had been purchased for domestic donation through the school lunch program and welfare outlets.

Markets may improve over the next 6 to 8 weeks as sweetpotato marketings show the usual sharp seasonal decline. However, with stocks probably still well above the tight supply of a year earlier, prices likely will average much below the high levels that prevailed last spring.

Acreage Cutback Indicated for 1966

Sweetpotato producers in early March reported intentions to plant 200,600 acres this year, 2 percent fewer than in 1965. Prospective acreage in Louisiana, the most important producing State, is the same as last year. Growers in Texas, Mississippi, Alabama, South Carolina, and Tennessee also indicated their plantings probably would be unchanged from 1965 levels. But smaller acreages are in prospect in a number of the other major States. Combined acreage in Virginia and Maryland, principally on the Eastern Shore, may be down 3 percent. Moderate to substantial reductions are indicated for New Jersey, North Carolina, and Georgia. Sweetpotato growers in California plan to have slightly fewer acres this year than last.

Supply Outlook for 1966-67 Season

With average yields, the intended acreage would result in a 1966 production of 17.1 million hundredweight, 5 percent smaller than last year, with most of the reduction in those States which store a large portion of their crop for late-season marketing. If the supply prospects are realized, prices for 1966-crop sweetpotatoes probably would average at least moderately above the relatively low levels of this season.

DRY EDIBLE BEANS

Supplies Tight; Prices High

Due to relatively light carryover stocks at the beginning of the season and reduced output in 1965, supplies of dry beans for the 1965-66 marketing season were materially smaller than those of last season. With supplies the smallest in many years, movement is off considerably. Export trade in particular is down from that of recent years, reflecting below-normal quality of the classes preferred by foreign buyers as well as the overall tight supply situation. Domestic use appears to be running a little below that of a year earlier, mainly because of a curtailed USDA donation program. Despite the drop in utilization, remaining supplies of dry beans are much below year-earlier levels. Stocks of most white classes are down sharply. Supplies of colored beans, as a group, appear to be larger than a year ago due to an increase in holdings of pintos. Stocks of red kidney beans are materially below year-earlier levels.

Dry bean prices so far this season have been sharply above those of a year earlier. U.S. average prices to growers reached a peak of $9.34 per

hundredweight in February--the highest for the month since 1948. However, buying activity was slow in late winter and markets have weakened a little. In early April, prices for the major white classes were down a shade from their late-February highs. F.o.b. prices for pintos have been slipping for several months, and although still well above average, recent quotations have been about 20 percent below the unusually high prices of April 1965. Prices for other colored classes, and for limas, have remained materially above year-earlier levels.

Price Support Activity

Price support activity for 1965-crop beans probably will be limited. Last season, growers placed 1.1 million hundredweight of 1964-crop beans under loan and 760,849 hundredweight eventually were delivered. This season, only about 0.7 million hundredweight of 1965-crop beans have been placed under support. About 135,000 bags of pea beans and 113,000 bags of Great Northerns went under loan--both down sharply from a year earlier. However, 313,000 bags of pintos have been placed under support, more than double the quantity under price protection a year ago. Although loans in all States matured on April 30, producers could extend the loan maturity date to June 30. The tonnage ultimately delivered to CCC later this year is expected to be nominal.

Growers Plan Acreage Increases

In early March, growers reported intentions to plant 1.6 million acres to dry beans, 2 percent more than last year and a tenth above the recent 5-year average. Acreage may be smaller than last year in Eastern and North-central States, but the same to larger acreages are in prospect in most of the major bean growing States in the West.

Intended acreage in New York, mostly in red kidney and black turtle soup beans, is down 2 percent from 1965. Growers in Michigan, the main source of pea beans, plan a cut of 5 percent in planted acreage. Total prospective acreage in the Red River Valley of Minnesota-North Dakota is down substantially from a year earlier, with reductions indicated in both States.

Plantings of pinto beans are expected to be expanded considerably this year. Producers in Colorado, the most important pinto growing State, plan an acreage increase of 13 percent. Intended acreages in both Utah and New Mexico, though relatively small, are up sharply. In the Northwest, where much of the acreage is in pintos and Great Northerns, total plantings may rise materially. Growers in Idaho, the area's leading producer, reported intentions to increase bean acreage 4 percent, while growers in Nebraska reported plans for 10 percent more. Washington acreage--mostly in small reds, pinks, and pintos--may be sharply above the low level in 1965.

California producers expect to have moderately more dry bean acreage this year than last. Prospective plantings of lima beans are up 2 percent, and those of other classes are up 7 percent.

Supply Outlook for 1966-67 Season

Since current stocks are below the light supplies of a year ago, movement during the balance of the season will be limited, and carryover at the end of the season is expected to be very small.

If growers plant according to their March 1 intentions, and yields equal the average of recent years, 1966 production of dry beans would be 22.1 million bags, a third above the small output in 1965, and record large. Total supplies of beans for the 1966-67 marketing season would be much above those available this season, with supplies of both white and colored classes relatively heavy.

Market needs for dry beans next season are not expected to differ materially from those of recent years. So the projected supply probably would result in considerable pressure on markets, with prices for 1966-crop beans averaging sharply below a year earlier.

1966-crop Price Supports

On April 1, USDA announced a national average support price for 1966-crop dry beans of $6.33 per hundredweight. The national average price is up 1 cent per hundredweight from that for the 1965 crop only because of a change in class weights. Support rates for individual classes are unchanged.

The support prices are for U.S. No. 1 grade beans, cleaned and bagged, with all charges except those for receiving and loading out paid through the maturity date for price support loans on the 1966 crop. Premiums and discounts for the 1966 program are the same as for those under the 1965 program. Premiums for U.S. Choice Hand Picked and U.S. Extra No. 1 grade beans will be 10 cents per hundredweight for all except pea beans, on which the premium for U.S. Choice Hand Picked grade will be 25 cents. U.S. No. 2 grade beans will be discounted 25 cents per hundredweight.

The support prices per hundredweight for U.S. No. 1 grade, depending on area are: Pea and medium white, $6.15 - $6.65; Great Northern, $6.71 - $7.21; small white and flat small white, $7.52; pinto, $5.97 - $6.57; red kidney, $8.26 - $8.70; pink, $7.32; small red, $7.37 - $7.47; large lima, $10.24 - $10.39; and baby lima, $5.59. As under past programs, beans will be supported through loans and purchases. Loans in Michigan and New York will be available through March 31 and mature on April 30, 1967. In all other States, loans will be available through May 31, and mature June 30.

DRY FIELD PEAS

Supplies Smaller, Prices Higher Than Year Ago

Carryover stocks at the beginning of this season were much larger than a year earlier. But production in 1965, at 4.0 million hundredweight, was 15

percent smaller than that in 1964. Thus, supplies of dry peas for marketing in the 1965-66 season were materially smaller than those available in 1964-65. Although down from a year earlier, supplies were large relative to trade needs. At industry request, the USDA has operated a Section 32 purchase program designed to aid producers in moving their large supply. Through mid-April, 18 million pounds of dry peas had been purchased for domestic donation.

Smaller supplies together with a relatively large movement to both domestic and export outlets materially strengthened the market for dry peas last fall. Prices to growers in December 1965 averaged $4.50 per hundredweight compared with the distress price of $3.23 a year earlier. In recent months, prices have eased downward to an average $4.23 per hundredweight in March. The decline apparently was due mainly to a weaker foreign demand. Exports during the winter ran a little smaller than a year earlier.

Prospects into summer are uncertain since markets will be influenced to some extent by the strength of foreign demand. However, despite the recent weakness in this sector, export movement is still considerably above average. With reduced U.S. supplies available, and domestic use expected to be at least as large as last season, prices probably will average well above those of a year ago.

Acreage Increase Indicated

Growers on March 1 reported intentions to plant 259,000 acres of dry peas this year, about 7 percent more than last year, but 23 percent below the 1960-64 average. Larger plantings are in prospect in all Northwestern States where most of the crop is grown. Producers in Washington plan 15 percent more acres than last year, those in Idaho plan 3 percent more, and Oregon farmers plan 8 percent more. But reductions in acreage are indicated for both North Dakota and Minnesota. Despite more acreage, output may be no different than in 1965. Yields were unusually high in 1965 because a late spring planting season resulted in a greater use of irrigated land for peas. With recent average yields, the intended U.S. acreage would result in a 1966 production of 4.0 million hundredweight, virtually the same as last year and moderately below the 1960-64 average.

Smaller Supply Indicated Next Season

The production of dry peas in 1966 may be as large as last year. But carryover into the coming season is likely to be at least moderately smaller than a year earlier. If these prospects materialize, supplies for marketing in the 1966-67 season would be down from those available this season, further easing the market pressures of recent years.

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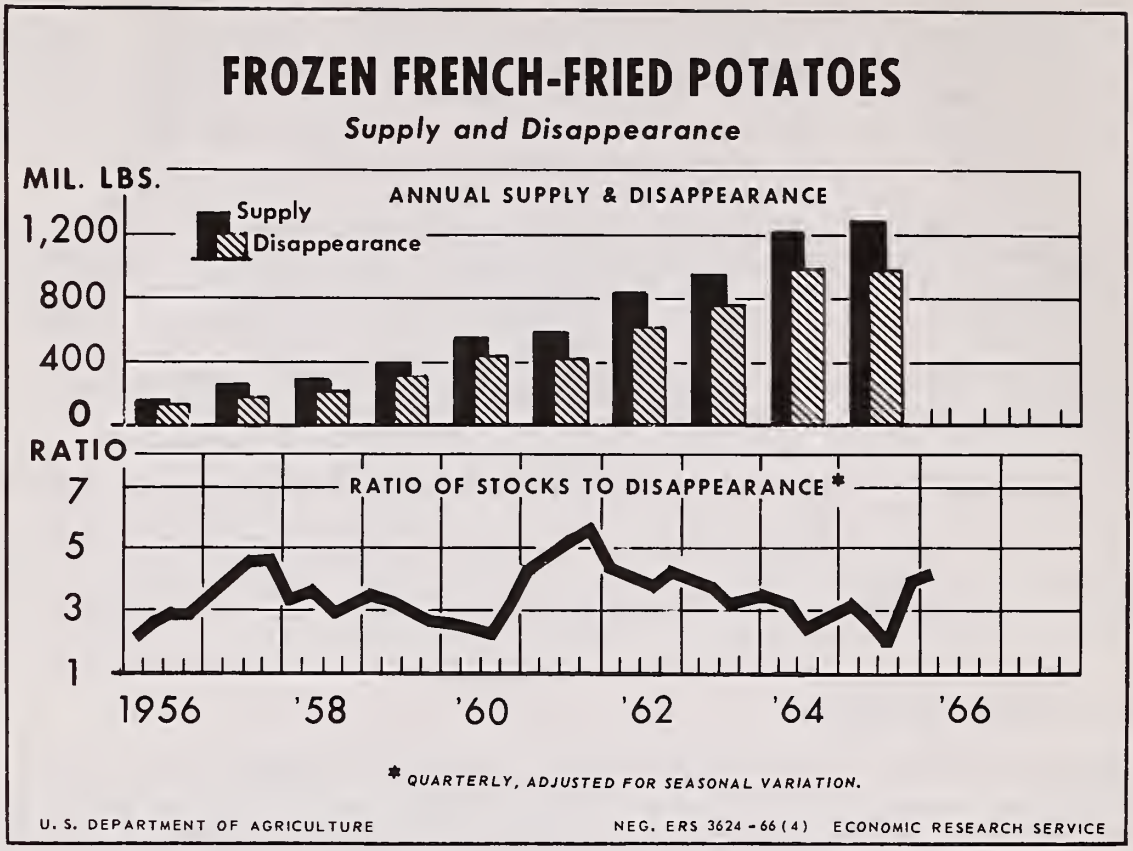

Although raw material shortages somewhat curtailed plant operations last spring, the 1965 pack of frozen potato products amounted to 1.2 billion pounds, a tenth above a year earlier and record large. Data compiled by the National Association of Frozen Food Packers show that most of the increase occurred in the pack of frozen French fries which typically accounts for nearly 90 percent of total production. Despite the increase in the 1965 pack and supply, disappearance during 1965 totaled a little smaller than that in 1964, probably because of reduced movement during the summer when stocks were light and prices relatively high. August 1, 1965, cold storage holdings, at 104 million pounds, were a third below a year earlier; retail prices averaged 7 percent higher.

With abundant supplies of potatoes, increased plant capacity, and many plants operating around the clock, it appears likely that the 1965-66 seasonal pack will be sharply above that of the previous season and a new record. By April 1, stocks had reached 464 million pounds, up 28 percent from a year earlier. Under the pressure of heavier supplies, prices have declined appreciably. But this apparently has encouraged much greater consumption; stocks relative to disappearance still are below the high level of the early 1960's when the industry suffered from over-capacity.

Table 4.--Truck crops, potatoes and sweetpotatoes: Unloads at 41 cities, indicated periods, 1965 and 1966

(Expressed in carlot equivalents)

Commodity	February 12-March 11, 1965			March 12-April 8, 1965			February 12-March 11, 1966			March 12-April 8, 1966		
	Domestic sources 1/	Im-ports	Total	Domestic sources 1/	Im-ports	Total	Domestic sources 1/	Im-ports	Total	Domestic sources 1/	Im-ports	Total
Asparagus	202	1	203	760	--	760	39	--	39	529	1	530
Beans, lima and snap	461	63	524	609	46	655	278	36	314	480	32	512
Beets	42	--	42	47	--	47	28	--	28	47	--	47
Broccoli	205	--	205	369	--	369	270	--	270	358	--	358
Cabbage	2,844	1	2,845	2,737	30	2,767	2,477	1	2,478	2,554	2	2,556
Cantaloups and other melons 2/	--	496	496	--	1,110	1,110	--	646	646	2	884	886
Carrots	1,644	1	1,645	1,497	--	1,497	1,424	1	1,425	1,422	--	1,422
Cauliflower	486	--	486	429	--	429	446	--	446	532	--	532
Celery	1,873	--	1,873	1,870	--	1,870	1,727	--	1,727	1,797	--	1,797
Corn	327	--	327	372	2	374	149	--	149	271	--	271
Cucumbers	111	445	556	270	258	528	97	336	433	123	210	333
Eggplant	108	36	144	137	33	170	121	44	165	91	43	134
Escarole and endive	256	8	264	316	6	322	300	5	305	295	7	302
Lettuce and romaine	6,228	--	6,228	6,646	--	6,646	5,176	2	5,178	5,647	--	5,647
Onions 3/	2,342	169	2,511	2,361	124	2,485	2,141	156	2,297	2,181	232	2,413
Peas, green	9	69	78	41	48	89	--	100	100	18	92	110
Peppers	793	143	936	567	126	693	560	228	788	499	194	693
Spinach	313	--	313	289	--	289	299	--	299	246	--	246
Squash	246	57	303	310	29	339	239	44	283	282	30	312
Tomatoes	1,820	992	2,812	1,628	1,481	3,109	1,541	1,134	2,675	1,053	1,372	2,425
Turnips and rutabagas	226	154	380	197	123	320	240	128	368	174	78	252
Watermelons	52	76	128	168	140	308	--	89	89	--	172	172
Other vegetables (including mixed)	1,550	6	1,556	1,444	3	1,447	1,289	6	1,295	1,387	5	1,392
Total	22,138	2,717	24,855	23,064	3,559	26,623	18,841	2,956	21,797	19,988	3,354	23,342
Potatoes	11,657	166	11,823	12,171	157	12,328	11,808	50	11,858	11,658	25	11,683
Sweetpotatoes	699	--	699	646	--	646	846	--	846	922	--	922
Grand total	34,494	2,883	37,377	35,881	3,716	39,597	31,495	3,006	34,501	32,568	3,379	35,947

1/ Rail, truck, boat and air combined. Truck unloads are not 100 percent complete but represent highest completeness obtainable under local conditions in markets covered.
2/ Except watermelons.
3/ Includes shallots, chives, cipolinas, leeks, scallions, and green onions.

Markets include: Albany, Atlanta, Baltimore, Birmingham, Boston, Buffalo, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbia, Dallas, Denver, Fort Worth, Detroit, Houston, Indianapolis, Kansas City, Los Angeles, Louisville, Seattle, Memphis, Miami, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Nashville, Newark, Tacoma, New Orleans, New York, Oakland, Philadelphia, Pittsburg, Portland (Ore.), Providence, St. Louis, St. Paul, Salt Lake City, San Antonio, San Francisco, Washington, and Wichita.

Market News: Weekly reports, C&MS, USDA.

Table 5.--Vegetables, fresh: Representative prices (l.c.l. sales) at New York and Chicago for stock of generally good quality and condition (U.S. No. 1 when available), indicated periods, 1965 and 1966

Market and commodity	State of origin	Unit	Tuesday nearest mid-month					
			1965		1966			
			Mar. 16	Apr. 13	Jan. 18	Feb. 15	Mar. 15	Apr. 12
			Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
New York:								
Beans, snap, green, Harvesters	Florida	Bu. hamper	6.50	4.50	3.75	8.75	9.25	4.25
Beets, bunched	Texas	1-3/4 bu. crt.	3.00	4.50	4.50	3.50	3.75	3.75
Broccoli, bunched	California	14's, crt.	2.87½	3.50	--	4.75	4.25	3.25
Cabbage, Domestic Round type	Florida	1-3/4 bu. crt.	3.75	3.75	2.35	4.25	5.25	2.65
Carrots:								
Topped, washed	California	48-1 lb. film bag, crt.	4.00	4.85	5.50	5.90	5.60	5.50
Topped, washed	Texas	48-1 lb. film bag, mesh master	2.75	3.40	3.90	4.75	3.75	4.50
Cauliflower	California	Ctn. film wrpd., 12's	3.50	4.35	4.65	5.00	5.00	4.25
Celery:								
Pascal	California	16-in. crt. 2-3 doz.	5.75	6.00	6.25	6.00	5.65	4.00
Pascal	Florida	16-in. crt. 2-4 doz.	4.75	4.15	4.25	4.50	4.65	2.85
Corn, green (yellow)	Florida	5 doz. crt.	6.50	4.25	5.25	6.50	5.50	5.25
Cucumbers	Florida	Bu. bskt.	--	7.50	7.75	--	9.00	6.25
Lettuce, Iceberg	California	2 doz. crt.	3.15	5.50	5.50	5.25	4.75	4.35
Onions:								
Yellow medium	New York	50-lb. sack	1.65	2.25	1.05	1.92½	1.55	2.25
Yellow, Granex, med.	Texas	50-lb. sack	--	2.85	--	--	--	--
Peppers, green	Florida	Bu. bskt., lge.	12.00	7.25	5.00	5.75	5.50	--
Spinach, Savory	Texas	Bu. bskt. and crt.	2.15	--	2.35	2.37½	2.75	--
Chicago:								
Beans, snap, green, Harvesters	Florida	Bu. hamper	6.25	5.25	5.25	7.35	8.50	5.00
Beets, bunched	Texas	36-bchs.	2.65	3.50	4.15	4.00	3.25	3.60
Broccoli	California	14's, ½ crate	2.75	3.85	4.50	4.50	3.50	3.25
Cabbage, Domestic Round type	Texas	1-3/4 bu. crt.	2.75	3.40	2.85	4.50	4.25	2.50
Carrots, Topped, washed	Texas	48-1 lb. film bag, mesh master	2.50	2.85	3.75	4.60	4.00	4.25
Cauliflower	California	Ctn. film wrpd. 12's	3.25	4.65	4.15	4.40	4.50	3.90
Celery:								
Pascal	California	16-in. crt. 2-3 doz.	5.75	5.50	5.65	5.75	5.45	3.60
Pascal	Florida	16-in crt. 2-4 doz.	5.25	4.75	4.25	4.60	4.65	3.00
Corn, green (yellow)	Florida	5 doz. crt.	5.90	4.35	5.35	4.75	6.00	5.00
Lettuce, Iceberg type	Arizona	2 doz. head ctn.	2.50	5.25	5.15	4.50	4.00	4.90
Onions:								
Yellow, Granex, med.	Texas	50-lb. sack	--	2.65	--	--	--	--
Yellow, medium	Midwestern	50-lb. sack	1.35	1.35	1.20	1.60	1.25	2.50
Peppers, green	Florida	Bu. bskt., large	7.00	6.50	5.25	6.00	5.00	7.75

Weekly summary of terminal market prices, Market News Reports, C&MS, USDA.

Table 6.--Vegetables, frozen: Cold storage holdings and indicated disappearance, January 1 to April 1

Commodity	March 1 stocks			January 1-April 1 net change		
	1960-64 average	1965	1966 1/	1960-64 average	1965	1966 1/
	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.
Asparagus	10	8	7	-8	-6	-7
Beans, lima:						
Fordhook	39	30	27	n.a.	-15	-16
Baby	44	34	39	n.a.	-17	-19
Total	83	64	66	-34	-32	-35
Beans, snap:						
Regular cut	48	56	53	n.a.	-36	-39
French style	25	26	22	n.a.	-15	-18
Total	73	82	75	-49	-51	-57
Broccoli	47	49	40	-5	-11	-6
Brussels sprouts	21	26	22	-9	-10	-7
Carrots	35	35	40	-14	-6	-11
Cauliflower	18	18	20	-8	-10	-11
Corn, sweet	80	82	93	-44	-53	-58
Peas and carrots	15	14	15	-1	0	-1
Peas, green	117	123	149	-87	-77	-105
Spinach	42	48	38	-7	-7	-12
Mixed vegetables	25	28	31	+1	+1	-1
Other vegetables	107	138	152	-22	-15	-34
Total vegetables	673	715	748	-287	-277	-345
Potatoes, French fried	236	353	464	+72	+129	+150
Grand total	909	1,068	1,212	-215	-148	-195

1/ Preliminary. n.a. - not available.
Cold Storage Report, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 7.--Vegetables, fresh: Average f.o.b. shipping point prices per hundredweight, United States, indicated periods, 1965 and 1966

Commodity	1965		1966		
	February 15	March 15	January 15	February 15	March 15
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Asparagus	28.90	21.90	--	62.20	37.70
Beans, snap	14.30	12.70	9.40	19.60	19.00
Broccoli	9.60	11.10	13.50	14.60	11.60
Cabbage	2.65	2.85	2.65	5.00	3.65
Carrots	3.80	3.05	4.75	5.80	5.20
Cauliflower	12.00	11.10	13.20	12.90	11.40
Celery	3.60	5.90	5.60	6.20	4.55
Corn, sweet	8.10	8.80	6.90	8.40	9.10
Cucumbers	7.80	9.50	7.30	11.50	11.50
Lettuce	3.85	3.35	8.20	7.20	6.60
Onions	2.45	2.55	1.90	2.75	2.50
Peppers, green	7.90	12.00	15.30	16.80	10.40
Spinach	7.90	7.80	10.70	10.80	9.50
Tomatoes	6.10	12.00	10.20	12.20	10.30

Agricultural Prices, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 8.--Canned vegetables: Commercial packs 1964 and 1965 and canners' and wholesale distributors' stocks 1965 and 1966, by commodities, United States

Commodity	Pack		Stocks					
			Canners 1/			Wholesale distributors 1/		
	1964	1965	Date	1965	1966	Date	1965	1966
	1,000 cases 24/303's	1,000 cases 24/303's		1,000 cases 24/303's	1,000 cases 24/303's		1,000 cases 24/303's	1,000 cases 24/303's
Major commodities								
Beans, snap	37,359	45,627	Mar. 1	14,838	17,944	Jan. 1	3,413	3,668
Beets	10,709	9,765	Mar. 1	6,844	4,588	Jan. 1	1,303	1,240
Corn, sweet	37,551	39,116	Mar. 1	17,538	13,356	Jan. 1	4,209	4,836
Peas, green	30,045	37,585	Mar. 1	9,876	12,784	Jan. 1	3,538	3,634
Sauerkraut	2/10,732	2/15,130	Mar. 1	3/4,599	3/5,691	Jan. 1	964	852
Total	126,396	147,223		53,695	54,363		13,427	14,230
Tomato items								
Tomatoes	36,431	36,015	Jan. 1	20,815	20,205	Jan. 1	3,661	4,085
Tomato juice 4/	43,067	40,047	Jan. 1	32,013	27,885	Jan. 1	2,670	2,739
Tomato catsup and chili sauce	34,018	35,629	Jan. 1	27,725	25,303	Jan. 1	2,254	2,675
Tomato pulp and puree	5,929	6,484	Jan. 1	5/3,812	5/3,758	Jan. 1	n.a.	n.a.
Total	119,445	118,175		84,365	77,151		8,585	9,499
Other commodities								
Asparagus	8,217	7,208	Mar. 1	1,808	1,232	Jan. 1	704	709
Beans, lima	2,213	2,981	Mar. 1	889	659	Jan. 1	563	654
Field peas	1,760	1,835						
Carrots	4,471	4,695	Mar. 1	2,489	1,790	Jan. 1	691	673
Okra 6/	751	844						
Pickles	2/35,487	2/36,924						
Pimientos	686	827						
Pumpkin and squash	3,799	3,854						
Potatoes	3,833	n.a.						
Sweetpotatoes	7,865	n.a.						
Spinach	7,641	6,395	Mar. 1	3,276	2,214	Jan. 1	757	755
Other greens	2,882	2,651						
Vegetables, mixed	5,534	6,141						
Total comparable other items	73,441	74,355		8,462	5,895		2,715	2,791
Grand total comparable items	319,282	339,753		146,522	137,409		24,727	26,520

1/ Converted from actual cases to standard cases of 24 No. 303 cans.
2/ Crop for processing converted to a canned basis by applying an overall conversion factor (pickles 83 and sauerkraut 65.9 cases equivalent to 1 ton fresh).
3/ Reported in barrels; converted to 24/303's by using 17.08 cases to the barrel.
4/ Includes combination vegetable juices containing at least 70 percent tomato juice.
5/ California only.
6/ Okra, okra and tomatoes, and okra, corn and tomatoes.
n.a. - not available.

Canners' stock and pack data from the National Canners Association, unless otherwise noted. Wholesale distributors' stock from United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 9.--Vegetables, commercial for fresh market: Index numbers (unadjusted) of prices received by farmers, as of 15th of the month, United States by months, averages 1935-39, 1947-49, 1950-54, and 1955 to date 1/ (1910-14 = 100)

Period	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Av.
1935-39	114	121	133	130	125	98	87	82	81	90	103	115	107
1947-49	288	305	310	308	277	215	207	196	193	204	241	246	249
1950-54	283	264	253	293	265	242	232	202	183	202	248	268	245
Year													
1955	251	273	260	272	254	220	206	210	226	219	245	230	239
1956	246	276	271	246	262	291	264	202	184	215	281	267	250
1957	241	237	238	271	285	281	269	233	200	213	217	246	244
1958	322	369	414	352	292	227	195	171	188	214	251	232	269
1959	295	301	288	291	271	233	229	214	244	265	275	303	267
1960	314	301	277	280	281	236	245	201	196	215	232	242	252
1961	233	234	241	300	266	290	259	208	210	213	247	237	245
1962	305	327	398	345	343	269	235	205	207	214	239	272	288
1963	324	298	258	264	247	285	274	210	200	225	290	297	264
1964	318	328	312	282	264	288	257	244	244	253	336	273	283
1965	264	268	306	343	396	361	295	266	259	266	301	304	302
1966 2/	343	417	364										

1/ The index for commercial fresh market vegetables was revised, beginning January 1958, to reflect changes in the method of reporting prices. All prices now are reported on a f.o.b. basis.
2/ Preliminary.
Agricultural Prices, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 10.--Potatoes: Acreage and prospective plantings for 1966 season, with comparisons

Seasonal group	Acreage 1960-64 average	Yield per harvested acre 1960-64 average	Acreage 1965	Acreage 1966	1966 as percentage of 1965
	1,000 acres	Cwt.	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent
Acreage harvested:					
Winter	21.0	190	19.4	25.8	133.0
Early spring	26.7	156	35.3	38.8	109.9
Late spring	117.1	205	121.7	125.2	102.9
Total	164.8	--	176.4	189.8	107.6
Prospective plantings:					
Early summer 1/	91.0	--	82.5	83.1	100.7
Late summer and fall 2/	1,150.7	--	1,174.3	1,204.2	102.5
Total	1,241.7	--	1,256.8	1,287.3	102.4
Alaska, late summer and fall	--	--	.80	.85	106.2
Total	1,241.7	--	1,257.6	1,288.2	102.4

1/ Intended acreage for 1966 as of February 1. 2/ Intended acreage for 1966 as of March 1.
Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 11.--Potatoes, winter and spring: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1960-64, 1965 and indicated 1966 1/

Seasonal group	Harvested acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	Average 1960-64	1965	Indicated 1966	Average 1960-64	1965	Indicated 1966	Average 1960-64	1965	Indicated 1966
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.
Winter	21.0	19.4	25.8	190	189	192	3,990	3,659	4,960
Early spring	26.7	35.3	38.8	156	139	133	4,172	4,898	5,175
Late spring	117.1	121.7	125.2	205	206	--	23,998	25,106	--

1/ This acreage and production is later included in reports of total potatoes.

Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 12.--Sweetpotatoes: Plantings, average 1960-64, annual 1965 and indicated 1966

Area	Acreage			
	Average 1960-64	1965	Indicated 1966 1/	1966 as percentage of 1965
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent
Central Atlantic 2/	36.5	35.4	33.1	94
Lower Atlantic 3/	47.3	47.0	44.8	95
South Central 4/	109.1	111.9	111.6	100
North Central 5/	2.6	2.7	2.9	107
California	8.9	8.4	8.2	98
United States	204.2	205.4	200.6	97.7

1/ Indications as of March 1. 2/ New Jersey, Maryland, and Virginia. 3/ North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. 4/ Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas, and New Mexico. 5/ Missouri and Kansas.

Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 13.--Potatoes: Prices f.o.b. shipping points, at terminal markets and to growers, per hundredweight, indicated periods, 1965 and 1966

Item	Week ended						
	1965			1966			
	Feb. 13	Mar. 13	Apr. 17	Jan. 15	Feb. 12	Mar. 12	Apr. 16
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
F.o.b. shipping points:							
New stock							
Florida, Dade County							
U.S. No. 1, Size A, Round Reds 1/	--	6.10	8.30	--	--	4.50	6.50
Old stock							
Colorado, San Luis Valley							
Red McClures 2/	5.78	5.84	--	2.36	2.38	2.22	2.20
Idaho, Idaho Falls							
Russets 3/	8.34	8.76	10.75	4.12	3.89	4.14	5.26
Maine, Aroostook County							
U.S. No. 1, Size A, Round Whites 1/4/	3.88	4.00	4.94	2.26	2.24	2.40	3.48
New York, Upstate							
Katahdin 1/	4.72	4.64	6.00	2.80	3.24	3.24	4.28
Michigan							
Round Whites 1/	--	4.60	--	2.64	2.84	2.90	--
	Tuesday nearest mid-month						
	1965			1966			
	Feb. 16	Mar. 16	Apr. 13	Jan. 18	Feb. 15	Mar. 15	Apr. 12
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Terminal markets:							
New York:							
New stock							
Florida, Round Reds 1/5/	--	8.50	10.00	--	--	6.00	--
Old stock							
Long Island, various Round Whites 1/5/	4.90	4.90	--	3.50	3.30	3.60	--
Maine, Katahdin 1/4/5/	5.10	5.10	6.20	3.50	3.50	3.70	4.50
Idaho, Russets 1/5/	9.60	9.60	10.70	5.25	5.40	5.50	5.50
Chicago:							
New stock							
Florida, Round Reds 1/5/6/	--	7.50	9.50	7.50	7.10	6.00	7.50
Old stock							
Idaho, Russets 5/6/	8.75	9.25	9.85	4.70	4.75	4.85	5.00
Minnesota-North Dakota							
Round Reds 5/6/	6.50	6.40	7.00	3.50	3.40	3.60	3.35
	Month						
	1965			1966			
	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
U.S. price received by growers	4.37	4.47	4.68	1.96	2.07	2.18	n.a.
U.S. average parity price	2.56	2.56	2.57	2.72	2.73	2.75	n.a.

1/ 50 pound price doubled.
2/ 2-inch up, washed.
3/ 10-oz. minimum.
4/ 2-inch minimum.
5/ U.S. No. 1, Size A.
6/ Street sales.
n.a. - not available.

F.o.b. prices are the simple averages of the mid-point of the range of daily prices. Terminal market prices are for Tuesday of each week and are submitted by Market News representatives to the Fruit and Vegetable Division of C&MS.

Table 14.--Sweetpotatoes: F.o.b. prices at Louisiana and New Jersey points and terminal market prices at New York and Chicago for stock of generally good quality and condition (U.S. No. 1, when available), indicated periods, 1965 and 1966

Location and variety	Unit	Week ended						
		1965			1966			
		Feb. 13	Mar. 13	Apr. 17	Jan. 15	Feb. 12	Mar. 12	Apr. 16
		Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
F.o.b. shipping points								
S.W. Louisiana points								
Porto Rico, U.S. No. 1, cured	50 pound crate	4.75	5.10	5.75	3.28	3.22	3.18	3.05
New Jersey, orange Jersey type	Bushel basket	4.00	4.62	--	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50
		Tuesday nearest mid-month						
		1965			1966			
		Feb. 16	Mar. 16	Apr. 13	Jan. 18	Feb. 15	Mar. 15	Apr. 12
		Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Terminal markets								
New York:								
New Jersey, orange Jersey type	Bushel basket	4.65	5.25	5.40	3.12½	3.20	3.12½	2.90
North Carolina Porto Rico type	Bushel basket	5.65	5.75	6.25	3.65	3.85	3.65	3.65
Chicago:								
Louisiana, Porto Rico, cured	50 pound crate	5.25	5.90	6.50	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.65

F.o.b. prices are simple averages of the mid-point of the range of daily prices. Market prices are for Tuesday of each week and are submitted by Market News representatives to the Fruit and Vegetable Division of C&MS.

Table 15.--Average price per hundredweight received by farmers for sweetpotatoes, dry edible beans, and dry field peas, United States, indicated periods, 1965 and 1966

Commodity	1965		1966		
	Feb. 15	Mar. 15	Jan. 15	Feb. 15	Mar. 15
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Field crops:					
Sweetpotatoes	6.13	6.57	4.58	4.82	4.79
Beans, dry edible	8.02	7.75	9.13	9.34	8.67
Peas, dry field	3.20	3.22	4.50	4.39	4.23

Agricultural Prices, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 16.--Beans, dry edible: Prospective plantings for 1966 season, with comparisons 1/

Group of States	Acreage planted			
	1960-64 average	1965	Indicated 1966 2/	1966 as percentage of 1965
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent
New York and Michigan	669	776	741	95.5
Nebraska, Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, and Washington	308	318	346	108.8
Minnesota and North Dakota	3/	34	28	82.4
Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah	267	256	290	113.3
California	234	222	235	105.9
United States	1,486	1,606	1,640	102.1

1/ Includes beans grown for seed. 2/ Indications as of March 1. 3/ Not available.
Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 17.--Peas, dry field: Prospective plantings for 1966 season, with comparisons 1/

State	Acreage planted			
	1960-64 average	1965	Indicated 1966 2/	1966 as percentage of 1965
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent
Minnesota	9	7	4	57
North Dakota	9	8	7	88
Idaho	115	93	96	103
Washington	180	121	139	115
Oregon	15	12	13	108
United States	338	241	259	107.5

1/ In principal commercial producing States.
2/ Indications as of March 1.
Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

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